

R E M A R K S

Applicant wishes to thank Examiners for their courtesy in granting the interview held on January 19, 2006 at which time a base claim 1 incorporating subparagraphs a)-g) was discussed in relation to cited art.

Claim 12 is urged to be of proper dependent form, because it positively includes the helmet as an element of the claimed combination whereas claim 1 does not do so.

Corrected sheets labeled as replacements, are enclosed.

Claim 1 submitted herewith includes dependent element h) not discussed at the interview, that element adding substantially to the novelty and unobviousness of claim 1 in its totality. Element h) recites the following:

h) each said folded corner section forming four layers of said fabric, said components stitched to said respective corner sections, said components having generally rectangular face area outline, whereby the components overlap angled edges defined by the respective corner sections.

The stitching of the two components (as at 18 and 19) to the two corner sections; the provision of four layers of fabric at each corner section, the generally rectangular face area outlines of the two components; and overlapping of the rectangular components over angled edges defined by the corner sections provide substantial enhancement of strength of the bandana at its corners. Stretch (i.e. shear) loading produced at the corners is thereby well distributed in transmission from the rectangular components to the fabric, due to the claimed multi-layer fabric corners and rectangular areas of the components that are sized to overlap the angled edges defined by the fabric corner sections. This strengthening adds to bandana life and ease of use.

The cited art fails to suggest h) above, or its incorporation in the totality of the claim, and no art suggests how, or that, Quinn could be modified to result in the totality of h) or of claim 1, as amended. Quinn teaches away from the provision of the claim 1 rectangular attachment components 18 and 19, for load spreading (in the plane of Fig. 7) of applicant's drawings), since Quinn uses a plugged hole connection, neither plug nor hole having rectangular shape, or stitching to multi-layered fabric, and in Quinn shear

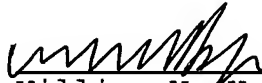
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loading is concentrated at the hole location, whereby fabric around the hole would be pull-deformed, to result in deformation of his bandana fabric, and enhance risk of bandana loosening and dropping. This would enhance inconvenience of the motorcycle rider, and exposure to environmental elements.

Claim 13 adds to the strengthening of the folded corner sections of the bandana.

In view of the amendment, changes to claim 1, the interview, and the above argument, reconsideration and allowance are believed justified and are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Serial No. 10/826,839

**Amendments to the Drawings**

Attachment:        Replacement Sheets  
                      Annotated Sheets showing changes

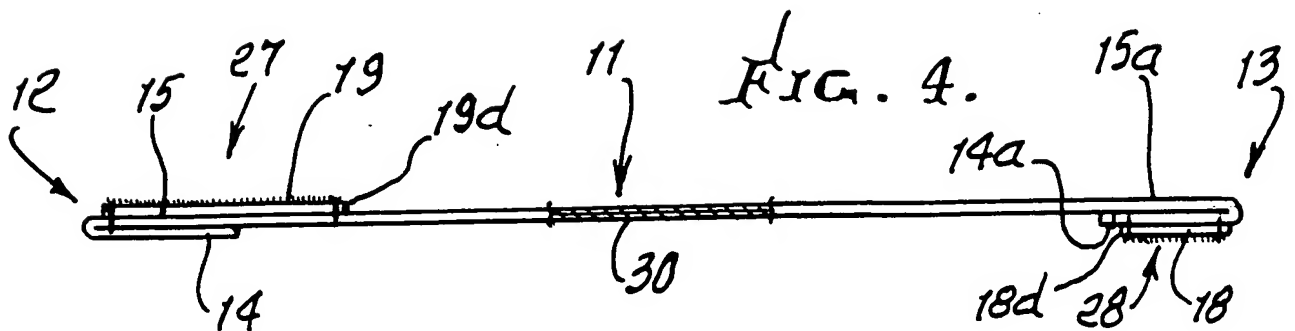
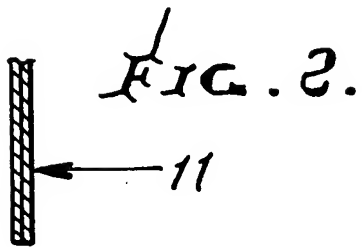
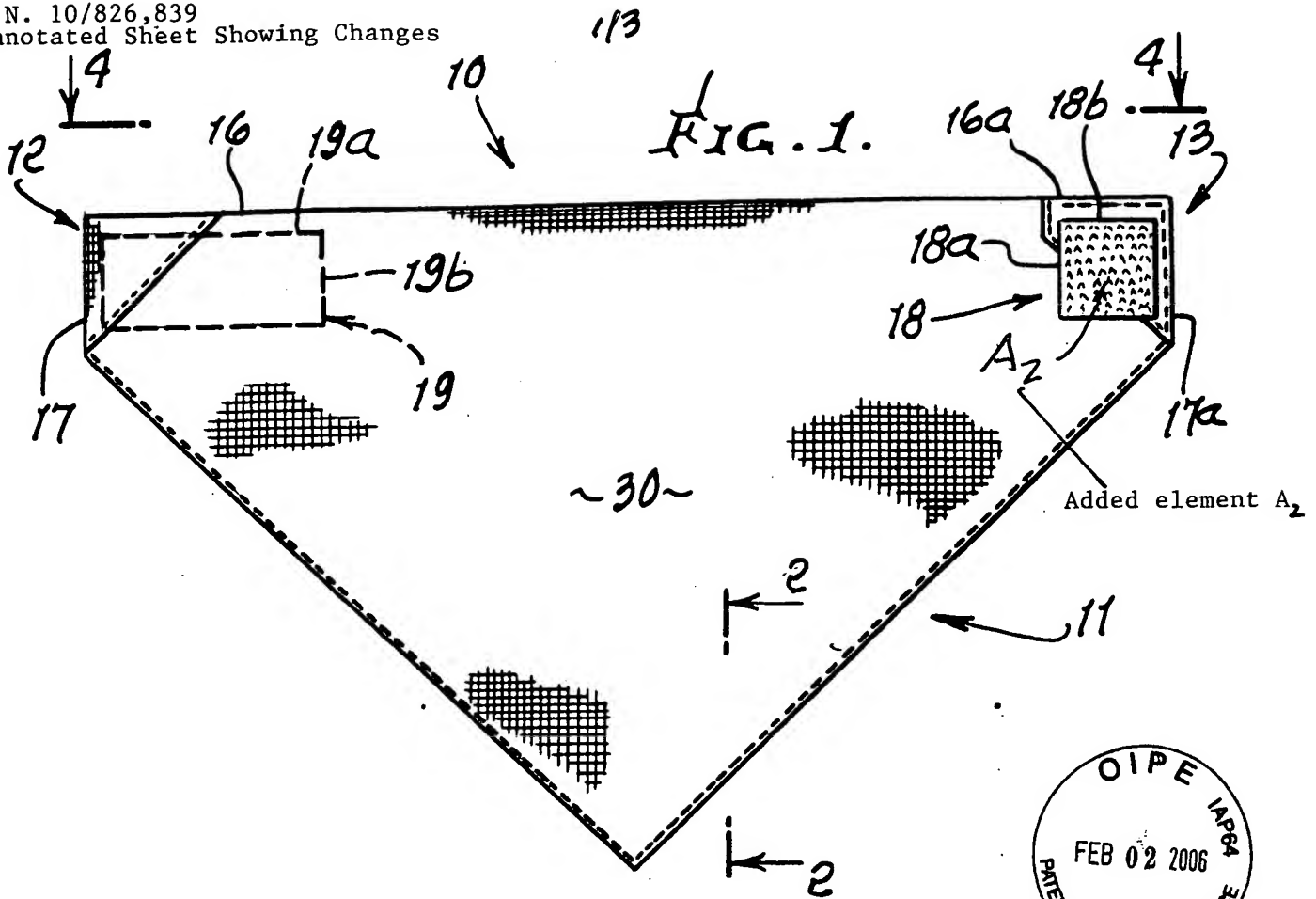


FIG. 3.

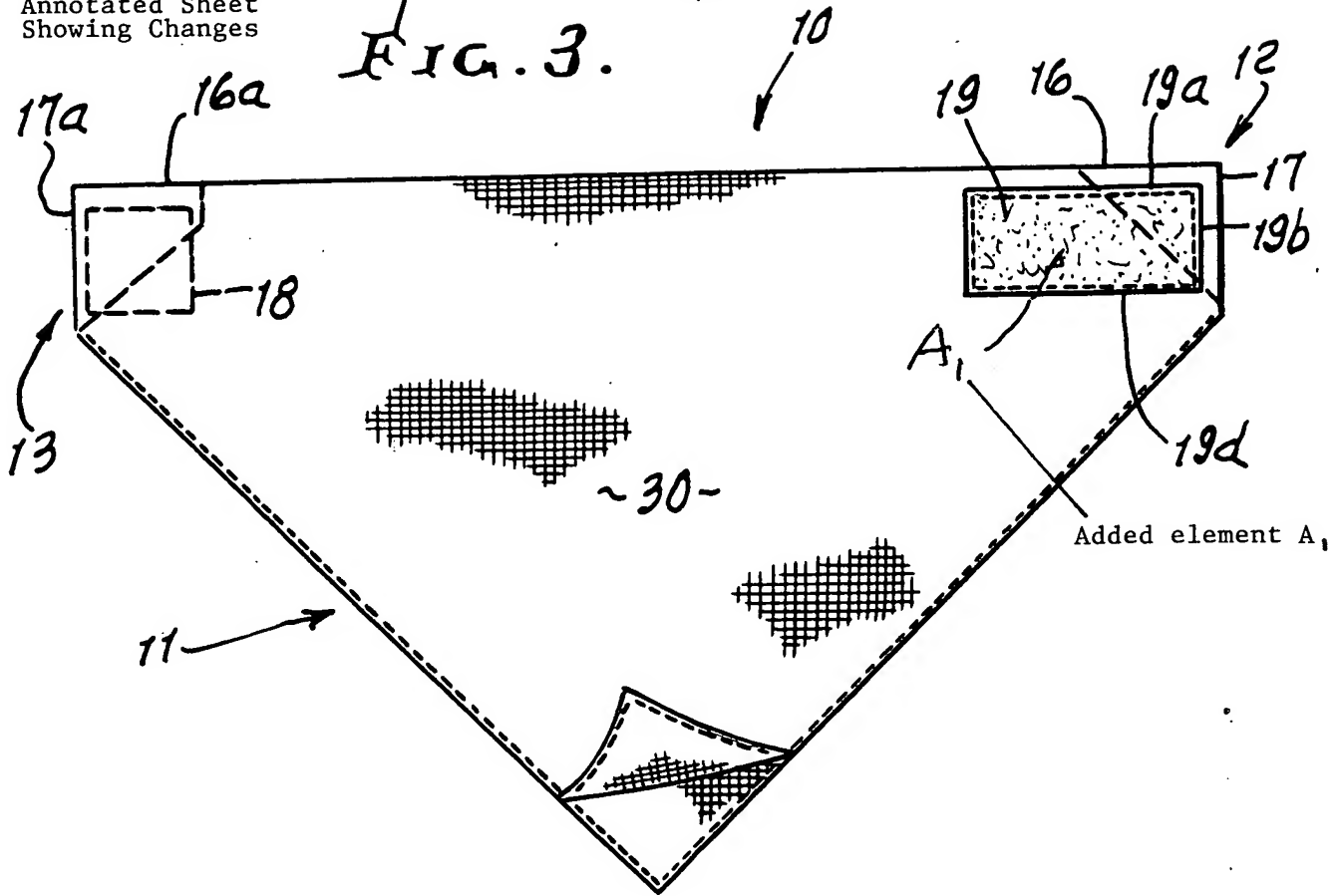


FIG. 5.

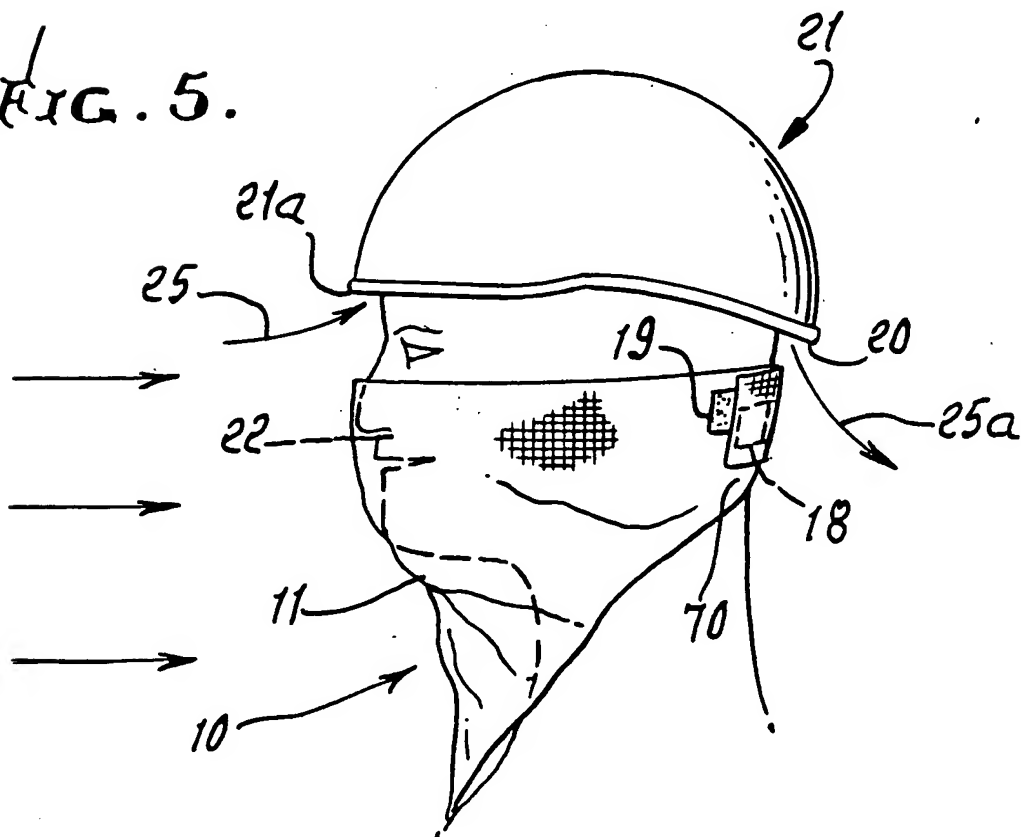


FIG. 6.

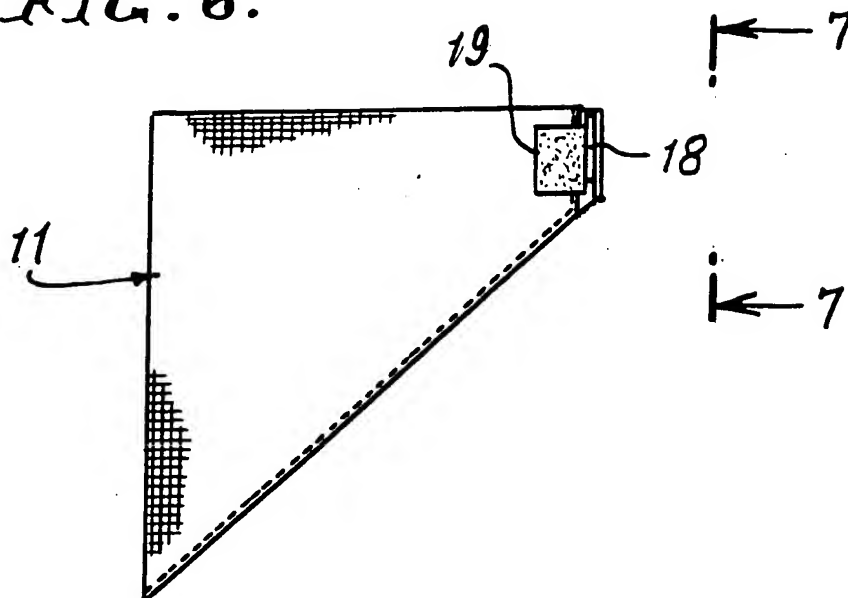


FIG. 7.

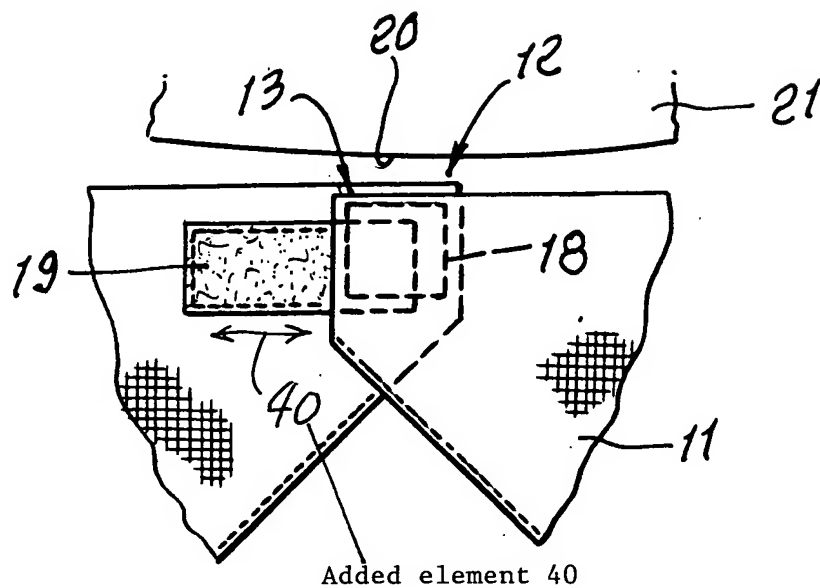


FIG. 8.

